

1 What is claimed is:

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3 1. An isolated nucleic acid molecule selected from the group consisting of:

4 a) a nucleic acid molecule comprising a nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:1,
5 or SEQ ID NO:3;

6 b) a nucleic acid molecule which encodes a polypeptide comprising the amino
7 acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2;

8 c) a nucleic acid molecule which encodes a fragment of a polypeptide
9 comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2, wherein the fragment comprises at
10 least 120 contiguous amino acids of SEQ ID NO: 2; and

11 d) a nucleic acid molecule which encodes a naturally occurring allelic variant of
12 a polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2, wherein the nucleic
13 acid molecule hybridizes to a nucleic acid molecule comprising SEQ ID NO: 1, 3, or a
14 complement thereof, under stringent conditions.

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16 2. The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 1, which is selected from the
17 group consisting of:

18 a) a nucleic acid comprising the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1, SEQ ID
19 NO:3; and

20 b) a nucleic acid molecule which encodes a polypeptide comprising the amino
21 acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2.

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23 3. The nucleic acid molecule of claim 1 further comprising vector nucleic acid
24 sequences.

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26 4. The nucleic acid molecule of claim 1 further comprising nucleic acid
27 sequences encoding a heterologous polypeptide.

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29 5. A host cell which contains the nucleic acid molecule of claim 1.

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31 6. The host cell of claim 5 which is a mammalian host cell.

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1 7. A non-human mammalian host cell containing the nucleic acid molecule of
2 claim 1.

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4 8. An isolated polypeptide selected from the group consisting of:

5 a) a polypeptide which is encoded by a nucleic acid molecule comprising a
6 nucleotide sequence which is at least 95% identical to a nucleic acid comprising the
7 nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1, SEQ ID NO:3, or a complement thereof.

8 b) a naturally occurring allelic variant of a polypeptide comprising the amino
9 acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2, wherein the polypeptide is encoded by a nucleic acid
10 molecule which hybridizes to a nucleic acid molecule comprising SEQ ID NO: 1, SEQ ID
11 NO:3, or a complement thereof under stringent conditions; and

12 c) a fragment of a polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID
13 NO:2, wherein the fragment comprises at least 120 contiguous amino acids of SEQ ID
14 NO:2.

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16 9. The isolated polypeptide of claim 8 comprising the amino acid sequence of
17 SEQ ID NO:2.

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19 10. The polypeptide of claim 8 further comprising heterologous amino acid
20 sequences.

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22 11. An antibody which selectively binds to a polypeptide of claim 8.

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24 12. A method for producing a polypeptide selected from the group consisting of:

25 a) a polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2;

26 b) a polypeptide comprising a fragment of the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID
27 NO:2, wherein the fragment comprises at least 120 contiguous amino acids of SEQ ID
28 NO:2; and

29 c) a naturally occurring allelic variant of a polypeptide comprising the amino
30 acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2, wherein the polypeptide is encoded by a nucleic acid
31 molecule which hybridizes to a nucleic acid molecule comprising SEQ ID NO:1, SEQ ID
32 NO:3, or a complement thereof under stringent conditions;

1 comprising culturing the host cell of claim 5 under conditions in which the nucleic
2 acid molecule is expressed.

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4 13. A method for detecting the presence of a polypeptide of claim 8 in a sample,
5 comprising:

- 6 a) contacting the sample with a compound which selectively binds to a
7 polypeptide of claim 8; and
8 b) determining whether the compound binds to the polypeptide in the sample.
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10 14. The method of claim 13, wherein the compound which binds to the
11 polypeptide is an antibody.
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13 15. A kit comprising a compound which selectively binds to a polypeptide of
14 claim 8 and instructions for use.
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16 16. A method for detecting the presence of a nucleic acid molecule of claim 1 in
17 a sample, comprising the steps of:

- 18 a) contacting the sample with a nucleic acid probe or primer which selectively
19 hybridizes to the nucleic acid molecule; and
20 b) determining whether the nucleic acid probe or primer binds to a nucleic acid
21 molecule in the sample.
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23 17. The method of claim 16, wherein the sample comprises mRNA molecules
24 and is contacted with a nucleic acid probe.
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26 18. A kit comprising a compound which selectively hybridizes to a nucleic acid
27 molecule of claim 1 and instructions for use.
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29 19. A method for identifying a compound which binds to a polypeptide of claim
30 8 comprising the steps of:

- 31 a) contacting a polypeptide, or a cell expressing a polypeptide of claim 8 with a
32 test compound; and
33 b) determining whether the polypeptide binds to the test compound.

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20. The method of claim 19, wherein the binding of the test compound to the polypeptide is detected by a method selected from the group consisting of:

- a) detection of binding by direct detecting of test compound/polypeptide binding;
- b) detection of binding using a competition binding assay;
- c) detection of binding using an assay for 25466-mediated signal transduction.

21. A method for modulating the activity of a polypeptide of claim 8 comprising contacting a polypeptide or a cell expressing a polypeptide of claim 8 with a compound which binds to the polypeptide in a sufficient concentration to modulate the activity of the polypeptide.

22. A method for identifying a compound which modulates the activity of a polypeptide of claim 8, comprising:

- a) contacting a polypeptide of claim 8 with a test compound; and
- b) determining the effect of the test compound on the activity of the polypeptide to thereby identify a compound which modulates the activity of the polypeptide.